EDWARD H. KUBO, JR. United States Attorney R. MICHAEL BURKE **Assistant United States Attorney** Room 6100, PJKK Federal Building 300 Ala Moana Blvd. Honolulu, Hawaii 96850 Tel: (808) 541-2850; Fax: (808) 541-2958 MARK A. BROWN Senior Trial Attorney United States Department of Justice Environment and Natural Resource Division Wildlife and Marine Resources Section P.O. Box 7369 Washington, D.C. 20044-7369 Tel: (202) 305-0204; Fax: (202) 305-0275

Attorneys for Defendants

## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF HAWAI'I

GREENPEACE FOUNDATION; CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY; AND TURTLE ISLAND RESTORATION NETWORK, Plaintiffs,	<ul> <li>Civil No.: 00-00068 (SPK)(FIY)</li> <li>FEDERAL DEFENDANTS'</li> <li>NOTICE REGARDING</li> <li>LOBSTER RESEARCH</li> </ul>
	)
VS.	)
CARLOS GUTIERREZ <sup>1</sup> , SECRETARY OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF	)
COMMERCE; AND WILLIAM HOGARTH,	)
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR FISHERIES, NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES	)
SERVICE,  Defendants, and	) Date: N/A
ASSOCIATION OF NWHI LOBSTER PERMIT HOLDERS,	<ul><li>) Time: N/A</li><li>) Judge: Hon. Samuel P. King</li><li>)</li></ul>
Defendant-Intervenor.	) ) _)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In his official capacity, Carlos Gutierrez is automatically substituted as co-Defendant, in place of Donald Evans, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 25(d)(1).

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Federal Defendants are hereby filing a National Marine Fisheries Service ("NMFS") memorandum (attached hereto as Defendants' Exhibit 1), which describes the agency's plans for lobster research in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands in 2007. As set forth in the memorandum, NMFS plans to conduct various research projects, including catch-and-release studies to monitor previously-tagged lobsters. The planned studies are independent of the commercial fishery, which remains closed, and NMFS is strictly limiting the number of lobsters removed to those specimens needed for laboratory analysis. In accordance with this Court's Order filed November 15, 2000 (122 F.Supp.2d 1123, 1139), NMFS is submitting this Notice to keep the Court and the parties informed concerning ongoing research efforts pertinent to this fishery.

Respectfully submitted,

EDWARD H. KUBO, JR. United States Attorney R. MICHAEL BURKE Assistant United States Attorney

MATTHEW J. MCKEOWN, Acting Assistant Attorney General JEAN WILLIAMS. Chief

DATED: March 13, 2007 /s/

/s/ Mark A. Brown

MARK A. BROWN (Florida Bar No. 0999504) Senior Trial Attorney

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I caused a copy of the foregoing "Federal Defendants' Notice Regarding Lobster Research" to be served this 13th day of March, 2007, by first-class mail, postage pre-paid, upon the following:

Paul H. Achitoff David L. Henkin D. Kapua Ala Sproat Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund 223 South King Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Bryan Y. Y. Ho Donald E. Fisher Suite 1614, Davies Pacific Center 841 Bishop Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

> /s/ Mark A. Brown Mark A. Brown